the declaration of moratorium on the bank. In terms of the scheme of amalgamation of the Bank of Cochin Ltd., Cochin with State Bank of India, which came into effect w.e.f. 26-8-1985, the salary fixation etc. of the employees of the erstwhile Bank of Cochin Ltd., absorbed in the State Bank of India, is required to be completed within a period of 3 years from the date of amalgamation.

Pay scales for scientists

2691. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that different Central associations and organisations of scientists belonging to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Indian Medical Research Council etc. have sought the intervention of the Prime Minister for a proper and just revision of pay scales; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) and (b) Representations including those regarding pay scales of scientists and others received from time to time in the Prime Minister's Office are sent to the concerned Ministries/Departments for appropriate consideration.

Reduction of import duty on raw material for pesticides

2692. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some members of Parliament have written to the Minister of Finance seeking reduction of customs duty on the import of D.V. Ester, a raw material for pesticides Industry;

(b) whether the Ministry of Industry, the administrative ministry has also recommended for the same; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) On the basis of representations received and the recommendations of the Ministry of Industry, notification No. 128/87-Customs, dated 12-3-87 has been issued (amending notification No. 464/86-Customs, dated 18-11-86 so as to substitute "D.V.Ester" in place of 'D.V.O.' in the Schedule annexed to the said notification) exempting the item from the whole of additional duty of customs (countervailing duty) of 15 per cent ad valorem.

Exemption of customs duty on raw material for pesticides

2693. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI:
SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Notification of 18th November, 1986 provides exemption of customs duty on raw material for pesticides;

(b) whether D.V.O. is not a raw material but an intermediate; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken for inclusion of D.V. ester which is the actual raw material for cypermethrin pesticide?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Notification No. 464/86-Customs, dated 18th November, 1986 exempts specified intermediates used in the manufacture of pesticides from the additional duty of customs (countervailing duty).

(b) and (c) Notification No. 128/87-Customs, dated the 12th March, 1987 has been issued (amending notification No. 464/86-Customs, dated 18-11-86 so as to substitute "D.V.Ester" in place of 'D.V.O.' in the Schedule annexed to the said notification) exempting the item from the whole of additional duty of customs (countervailing duty) of 15 per cent ad valorem.